

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed July 6, 2005. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-12 and 19-24 were pending in this Application. Claims 1-12 and 19-24 were rejected. Claims 1, 6, 8-12 and 19-24 have been amended to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Claims 13-18 were previously cancelled due to an election/restriction requirement. Claim 5 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claim Objections

The numbering of the Claims was objected to by the Examiner as not being in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.126. Applicants have renumbered the Claims in accordance with the Examiner's indication.

Claims 11 and 12 were objected to because the Claims should depend on Claim 8 instead of Claim 7. Applicants have amended Claims 11 and 12 to overcome these objections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4, 5 and 7 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,592,387 issued to Vernon Komenda et al. ("Komenda"). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit the cited art does not teach all of the elements of the claimed embodiment of the invention.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

As amended, Independent Claim 1 recites, "an assembly housing operable to receive a portion of a screw used to couple the connector to a chassis of an information handling system such that the assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second plane" and "a sliding block ... operable to move the connector between a first position and a second position within the second plane."

The Komenda reference relates to "a mounting scheme that allows the blind mating of electrical connectors in a tray to electrical connectors in module that is inserted into the tray." See Col. 1, lines 10-13. More specifically, Komenda describes two embodiments, both of

which include a connector (500, 710) and a spring-biased assembly that are disposed in (and operate in) a common plane. See Figs. 5 and 7.

Because Independent Claim 1 recites an assembly housing and a connector which are located in separate planes, Komenda fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every limitation of Claim 1. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, withdrawal of the §102 rejections and full allowance of Independent Claim 1 and Claims 4 and 7 which depend therefrom.

Claims 1-3 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,318,455 issued to Gérard Villiers et al. ("Villiers"). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit the cited art does not teach all of the elements of the claimed embodiment of the invention.

The Villiers reference relates to a connector "mounted in a floating manner with six degrees of freedom." See Col. 2, lines 28-31. Villiers provides a spring 12 and helical springs 19 to return the connector body 1 to an equilibrium position. See Col. 2, line 59- Col. 3, line 31. Applicants note that each spring is located in a plane common to the connector and, like Komenda, Villiers fails to disclose, teach or suggest an assembly housing and connector which are located in separate planes.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Komenda fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every limitation of Claim 1. Applicants request reconsideration, withdrawal of the §102 rejections and full allowance of Claim 1 and Claims 2-3 which depend therefrom.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6, 8-12 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Komenda. Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that the cited art does not render the claimed embodiment of the invention obvious. In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the references cited by the Examiner must disclose all claimed limitations. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (C.C.P.A. 1974).

Claim 6 depends from an Independent Claim that has been placed in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 8 recites an information handling system that includes, among other features, "a spring-loaded assembly associated with the connector such that the spring loaded assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second

plane” and “a sliding block ... operable to move the connector between a first position and a second position within the second plane.”

Independent Claim 19 recites a method that includes, among other steps, “attaching an assembly housing of a connector to a portion of an information handling system ... such that the assembly housing is located in a first plane and the connector is located in a second plane, where the first position and the second position are located within the second plane.”

For the reasons discussed above, Komenda fails to disclose, teach or suggest a system or method wherein the connector and housing are provided and operate within separate planes. Accordingly, Komenda fails to render obvious Independent Claims 8 or 19. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, withdrawal of the §103 rejection and full allowance of Claim 6, Independent Claims 8 and 19 and Claims 9-12 and 20-24 which depend therefrom.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants enclose an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449, with a copy of the reference and a check in the amount of \$180.00, for the Examiner's review and consideration.

CONCLUSION

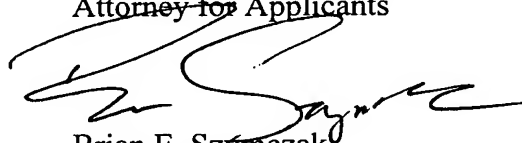
Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Claims 1-24 as amended.

Applicants believe no further fees are due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0383 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2548.

Respectfully submitted,

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